

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) A polypeptide comprising more than one S3 peptides comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No: 1, wherein at least two of the S3 peptides are separated by a linking sequence cleavable by a protease.
2. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein the S3 peptides are in tandem repeat.
3. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising 2 to 10 S3 peptides.
4. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising two S3 peptides.
5. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising three S3 peptides.
6. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising four S3 peptides.
7. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising eight S3 peptides.

Claims 8 and 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A polypeptide comprising more than one S3 peptides comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No: 1, wherein at least two of the S3 peptides are separated by a ~~The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein at least one of the linking sequence is cleavable by acid digestion.~~

11. (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 10 wherein ~~the~~ at least one of the linking sequences comprises Asp-Pro.

Claim 12 (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9, having a linking sequence cleavable by a protease.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein the more than one S3 peptide is tagged with a detectable label.

16. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 15 wherein the label is detectable by fluorescence.

Claims 17 – 31 (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 immobilized on a solid medium.

33. (Currently Amended) The polypeptide peptide of claim 15 immobilized on a solid medium.

34. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 33 wherein the solid medium is agarose.

Claim 35 (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A ~~commercial~~ package comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 and instructions for its use in detecting LPS-containing bacteria in a sample.

Claim 37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) A ~~commercial~~ package comprising the polypeptide of claim 32 and instructions for its use for removing LPS or LPS-containing bacteria from a sample.